

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 INR-05 NSCE-00

PM-03 CIAE-00 IO-06 ACDA-10 INRE-00 PRS-01 SP-02

L-01 /051 W

-----036891 241912Z /47

O P 241650Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6353

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

/AMEMBASSY BONN 750

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USNMR SHAPE BEL

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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LIMDIS

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC; USCINCEUR AND USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU

SUBJECT: GOC FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES' DEMARCHE ON VAROSHA, UNGA;  
OTHER MATTERS

REF: NICOSIA 2220 (DTG R 241340Z AUG 77) (NOTAL)

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SUMMARY: THROUGH FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES, GOC ASKS FURTHER US ASSISTANCE TO PREVENT TURKISH OCCUPATION OF CONSTANTIA HOTEL SECTION OF VAROSHA, AND TO PROTECT PRECEDENT IN UNGA CYPRUS DEBATE. GOC EXPLICITLY REITERATES REQUEST FOR CONTINUED US ROLE IN CYPRUS PROBLEM IN RESPONSE TO CLIFFORD PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT. CHRISTOPHIDES SAYS THE LINES ARE BEING DRAWN ON WHETHER AND HOW GOC SHOULD PURSUE AN INTERNATIONAL

CONFERENCE ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, WITH ACTING PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU BEING IN FAVOR OF INITIATIVE AND CHRISTOPHIDES AGAINST. END SUMMARY.

1. GOC FONMIN CHRISTOPHIES ADKED ME TO CALL AUG 23 TO RECEIVE DEMARCHE ON TURKISH OPENING AND OCCUPATION OF CONSTANTIA HOTEL AREA OF VAROSHA. GOC HAD ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT FONMIN WOULD BE MEETING ACTING SPECREP OF UNSYG AND AMBASSADORS OF FIVE PERMANENT SC MEMBERS.

2. SAYING THAT AMB DIMITRIOU WOULD BE MAKING PARALLEL PRESENTATION IN DEPT, CHRISOTPHIDES REPRESENTED TURKISH ACTION IN VAROSHA AS YET ANOTHER FAIT ACCOMPLI AND FIRST PHASE IN A "SALAMI TACTIC" TO OPEN AND OCCUPY ALL OF VAROSHA. IF TURKEY PERSISTED, HE SAID, THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATION WOULD BE AT AN END. GOC WAS APPROACHING USG "AS A WARM FRIEND" BUT ALSO PROMINENT MEMBER OF SC, WHICH HAS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS MATTER, FOR HELP IN REVERSING THE TURKISH ACTION. CHRISTOPHIDES ADDED THE "PRIVATE" OBSERVATION THAT TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAD NOW GIVEN SO MUCH FANFARE TO OPENING OF TRAINING SCHOOL AT THE CONSTANTIA HOTEL THAT IT IS PROBABLY TOO LATE TO REVERSE TURKISH PRESENCE THERE. HIS HOPE WAS THAT INTERCESSION OF US AND OTHERS WITH TURKEY WOULD HALT PLANS TO OCCUPY ADJACENT 100-ROOM APARTMENT AND SHOPS.

3. CHRISTOPHIDES HANDED ME A MEMORANDUM RECOUNTING RECENT  
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TURKISH STATEMENTS WHICH, HE ALLEGED, REVEALED THIER INTENTIONS IN VAROSHA (REFTEL).

4. I SAID USG STANDS WITH GOC ON THIS MATTER. OUR POSITION HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE A MATTER OF RECORD, BOTH PUBLICLY IN MR. CLIFFORD'S AUG 9 PRESS CONFERENCE IN NICOSIA AND DIPLOMATICALLY THROUGH REPRESENTATIONS TO GOT. WE HAD BEEN ASSURED THAT THERE WAS NO INTENTION AT THIS TIME TO TAKE SIMILAR ACTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE REST OF VAROSHA. WHILE WE HERE WERE NOT IN A POSITION TO EVALUATE THE TURKISH ASSURANCE, I GAVE IT AS AN EMBASSY NICOSIA VIEW THAT TURKEY MAY (A) CONSIDER ULTIMATE CONTROL OF FAMAGUSTA PORT A STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE AND (B) REGARD PERMANENT TURKISH OCCUPATION AND CONTROL OVER PORT PERIPHERY, INCLUDING CONSTANTIA HOTEL AREA AS ESSENTIAL TO THIS OBJECTIVE.

5. CHRISOTPHIDES AGREED THIS WAS A PLAUSIBLE THEORY BUT SAID THAT IF THIS WERE THE TURKISH OBJECTIVE, IT SHOULD BE PURSUED AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE NOT BY FURTHER UNILATERAL ACTION. MAIN POINT OF GOC DEMARCHE, IN ANY CASE, WAS TO REQUEST FURTHER EFFORTS FROM FRIENDS TO BLOCK CHANGE IN THE STATUS QUO.

6. CHRISTOPHIDES SAID HE HAD A SECOND MATTER ON HIS OFFICIAL AGENDA: CYPRUS DEBATE IN THE UNGA. AFTER DESCRIBING PROCEDURE WHEREBY CYPRUS ITEM WILL BE ALLOCATED TO COMMITTEE AND TO PLENARY BY STEERING COMMITTEE, OF WHICH US IS A MEMBER, AND NOTING GOC REPORTS THAT GOT IS AGAIN ATTEMPTING TO KEEP CYPRUS OUT OF THE PLENARY AND REDUCE ITS IMPORTANCE BY SEEKING TO HAVE IT HEARD ONLY IN SPC, CHRISTOPHIDES ASKED THAT USG SUPPORT PROCEDURE ADOPTED BY GA'S SINCE 1974, I.E. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR TURKISH CYPRIOTS TO BE HEARD IN SPC WITH GOC, ONLY, REPRESENTING CYPRUS IN PLENARY.

7. I TOLD CHRISTOPHIDES I WOULD CONVEY HIS DEMARCHE ON THIS AS WELL AS VAROSHA. I NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT DURING HIS LATE JULY VISIT TO NICOSIA

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ASSTSEC MAYNES HAD MENTIONED IN CONVERSATIONS THAT US THIS YEAR WOULD AGAIN OPPOSE ANY CHANGE IN PROCEDURE.

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8. CHRISTOPHIDES THEN SAID HE HAD TWO ADDITIONAL MATTERS  
ON WHICH HE WANTED TO SOUND ME OUT ON A PERSONAL BASIS.  
FIRST, IN HIS AUG 9 NICOSIA PRESS CONFERENCE, MR. CLIFFORD  
HAD SAID US ROLE IN CYPRUS PROBLEM WOULD CONTINUE IF THE  
PARTIES DESIRED. CHRISTOPHIDES WONDERED WHETHER THIS MEANT  
THAT WE WANTED AN EXPLICITLY RENEWED REQUEST FOR A CONTINUED  
US ROLE NOW THAT CYPRUS PRESIDENCY HAD CHANGED. HE ALSO ASKED  
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WHETHER (ACTING PRESIDENT) KYPRIANOU'S REMARKS TO ME AT OUR  
MEETING ON AUG 19 HAD RESOLVED ANY UNCERTAINTY USG MIGHT HAVE ON  
THIS SCORE. I REPLIED THAT I DID NOT THINK MR. CLIFFORD'S  
REMARK WOKEED TO AN EXPLICIT RENEWAL OF GOC REQUEST FOR US  
INVOLVEMENT. IN ANY CASE, KYPRIANOU HAD TOLD ME THAT HE  
WANTED TO CONTINUE MAKARIOS' POLICIES, CENTRAL TO THESE BEING  
RELIANCE ON US HELP IN SEEKING A CYPRUS SOLUTION.  
CHRISTOPHIDES SAID GOOD. FONMIN TOLD ME THAT IF THERE WERE  
ANY DOUBTS IN OUR MIND HE HAD BEEN EMPOWERED BY KYPRIANOU  
TO REITERATE THAT GOC WANTS AND IS RELYING UPON CONTINUING  
ASSISTANCE OF PRESIDENT CARTER, SECRETARY VANCE AND MR. CLIFFORD.

9. CHRISTOPHIDES SAID HIS SECOND PERSONAL INQUIRY CONCERNED  
AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. THIS WOULD  
BE DISCUSSED AT MEETING OF NATIONAL COUNCIL/COUNCIL OF MINISTERS  
SCHEDULED FOR AFTERNOON AUG 24. CHRISTOPHIDES RECOUNTED  
DEVELOPMENTS OF PAST TWO MONTHS WHICH ADDED UP TO THE FACT  
THAT MAKARIOS' STATEMENTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, LEAVE AN  
AMBIGUOUS INHERITANCE ON THIS SUBJECT. CHRISTOPHIDES ANTICIPATED  
THAT AT AUG 24 MEETING KYPRIANOU WOULD BE MANEUVERING TO MAKE  
AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE A CENTRAL POLICY OBJECTIVE IN  
UNGA. UTILITY OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HAS LONG BEEN AN  
ARTICLE OF FAITH WITH KYPRIANOU. CHRISTOPHIDES SAID HE HIMSELF  
FELT THAT AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WOULD NOT HELP THE CYPRUS  
PROBLEM, QUITE THE CONTRARY, AND THAT FOR GOC TO DO MORE THAN  
PAY LIP SERVICE TO THE IDEA WOULD BE WRONG AND BADLY RECEIVED  
IN WASHINGTON. I REPLIED THAT CHOICE WAS FOR GOC TO MAKE.  
IF IT WERE FELT NECESSARY TO PURSUE THIS FOR REASONS OF  
INTERNAL POLITICAL EXPEDIENCY, OR OTHERWISE, SO BE IT.  
HOWEVER, USG SHARED HIS OPINION THAT IT WOULD NOT ADVANCE A SOL-  
UTION. AN EFFORT IN THIS DIRECTION WOULD BE NEGATIVELY

VIEWED IN WASHINGTON. PRESIDENT CARTER'S HELP HAD BEEN  
ASKED BY MAKARIOS. WE HAD PROMISED IT. THE SOVIET IDEA WAS  
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PROPAGANDISTIC AND CONFLICTING. IF IT WERE NOW TO BE SUC-  
CESSFULLY PUSHED BY THE GOC, IT WOULD GIVE USSR A LOCUS STANDI  
IN CYPRUS PROBLEM WHICH WE WOULD NOT APPROVE AND IT DID NOT  
DESERVE, GIVEN ITS CLEAR INTEREST IN PERPETUATING THE PROBLEM.

10. CHRISTOPHIDES THANKED ME AND SAID MY REMARKS SUPPORTED HIS  
INTENDED APPROACH IN AUG 24 MEETING. HE HAD PREPARED A BRIEFING  
MEMORANDUM TO BE PRESENTED AT THE MEETING WHICH DID NOT  
REFER TO US AND WOULD NOT. MEMORANDUM ASKED NATIONAL  
COUNCIL/COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEMBERS TO EVALUATE WHETHER  
GOC COULD REALISTICALLY COUNT ON HAVING THE SUPPORT OF  
NON-ALIGNED CONTACT GROUP IN NEW YORK. WITHOUT  
SPONSORSHIP OF CONTACT GROUP, GIVEN UNDOUBTED OPPOSITION OF  
MANY OTHERS, PROPOSAL WOULD GO NOWHERE. MEMORANDUM ALSO  
SUGGESTS MEMBERS COME TO A JUDGMENT ON WHETHER, IF PUT TO THE  
TEST, EVEN SOVIET UNION WOULD WORK FOR PROPOSAL. CHRISTOPHIDES  
EXPLAINED THAT THE SECOND POINT IN THE MEMORANDUM WAS DESIGNED  
TO EXPOSE PAPAIOANNOU (SECRETARY GENERAL OF COMMUNIST PARTY  
AKEL), WHO IS KNOWN TO HAVE TOLD FRIENDS THAT THE SOVIET UNION  
AS A POWER WITH GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING KEEPING THE  
PEACE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY, SHOULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO TAKE  
WHAT IN THIS CASE WOULD BE A PARTISAN POSITION.

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PGOV, CY, TU  
**To:** STATE USEEC  
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